

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 11, 2005

Britt Cocanour, Treasurer Emily's List 1120 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20036

Response Due Date: June 10, 2005

Identification Number: C00193433

Reference:

30 Day Post-General Report (10/14/04-11/22/04)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above. An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses payments from federal candidate committees and other federal committees for goods and/or services provided by your committee. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) states that "...the provision of any goods or services without charge or at a charge which is less than the usual and normal charge for such goods or services is a contribution." Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, membership lists and mailing lists. The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as "...the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution". The usual and normal charge for services is defined as "...the hourly or piecework charge for the services at a commercially reasonable rate prevailing at the time the services were rendered." 11 CFR §100.52(d)(2)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided to all federal committee(s) and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount(s) charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at less than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered

to be an in-kind contribution by your committee to the federal committee(s) and is subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441a. (11 CFR §100.52(d)(1))

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) B and H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Cashiering," "Computer Supplies/Hardware" (paid to an individual), "Mail House" and "Office Supplies Expenses" (paid to individuals). For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Catering/Facilities," "Copying/Faxing," "Phone Banks," "Postage," "Mail House" and "Printing" on Schedule(s) B and H4. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Please identify the recipient candidate/committee for the in-kind contribution(s) disclosed on Schedule B for Line 23.

-Your report discloses the apparent disbursement of earmarked contributions outside the permissible time period. As a conduit or intermediary for an authorized committee, your committee must forward any earmarked contribution, along with a transmittal report, no later than ten (10) days after receiving the earmarked contribution. 11 CFR §§102.8(a) and (c) and 110.6(c)(1)(iii)

If the earmarked contributions were incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your report with clarifying information.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the untimely forwarding of earmarked contributions, your prompt action in addressing the concerns raised will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule E discloses independent expenditures on behalf of a federal candidate. Schedule B discloses in-kind contributions on behalf of this same candidate. Under 2 U.S.C. §431(17), an "independent expenditure" is defined as:

... an expenditure by a person expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate; and that is

not made in concert or cooperation with or at the request or suggestion of such candidate, the candidate's authorized committee, or their agents, or a political party committee or its agents.

Further, 11 CFR §109.21 outlines the factors which define a coordinated communication. Please verify that the independent expenditures made by your committee in support of Betty Castor meet the definition of and were properly categorized as independent expenditures. If necessary, amend your reports to disclose the aforementioned transactions as in-kind contributions (Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page).

If the reclassification of these expenditures as in-kind contributions results in excessive contributions, the Commission recommends that you notify the recipient(s) and request a refund of the amount in excess of \$5,000 per election. Please inform the Commission immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your refund request(s) sent to the recipient(s). In addition, any refund should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of your next report.

-The independent expenditure schedule (Schedule E) should disclose the following information: the name and mailing address of the payee, the purpose of the expenditure, the date of payment, the amount of payment, the name and office sought, state and district (if applicable) of the federal candidate, the calendar year-to-date, per election, for office sought total, the election designation, an indication of whether the candidate was supported or opposed and the signature of the treasurer. Please amend Schedule E by providing the election designation. 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3)(vii)

-On Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, you have failed to check the appropriate allocated activity or event category box for several payments. Please amend your report to disclose the appropriate category.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1393.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Jones

Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division

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